



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

A. G. Kawamura, Secretary

February 1, 2006

**RE: ANNOUNCEMENT OF MINIMUM PRICES FOR CLASSES 2, 3, 4a and 4b
MARKET MILK**

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

On the reverse side of this page are the minimum prices for Classes 2, 3, 4a and 4b market milk for January, February and March 2006. All prices are f.o.b. milk processing plant. As provided in the Stabilization and Marketing Plans for Market Milk (Plans), milk handlers shall pay producers the minimum prices for market milk components sold or used for all Classes 2, 3, 4a and 4b purposes as specified on the reverse side of this page. Component and hundredweight prices for Classes 2 and 3 include Milk Producers Security Trust Fund charges effective June 1, 2002.

If market milk components are purchased f.o.b. producer's dairy location, haul deductions may be made as provided in the Plans.

Equivalent hundredweight prices shown in the right-hand column are based upon milk that is 3.5% fat and 8.7% solids-not-fat (SNF). These classified minimum prices that processors must pay for milk received from producers are calculated based upon mathematical formulas. The formulas are established and amended as needed through a public hearing process. These formulas include commercial prices for manufactured dairy products (butter, Cheddar cheese western dry whey and nonfat dry milk). These commercial prices are also listed on the reverse side of this page.

This price information is also available on a recorded message. Please call (800) 503-3490 to hear the recording. If you are calling from Sacramento, or from outside of California, please call (916) 442-MILK. You can also access this information over the Internet on the Department's Homepage. The address is <http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/dairy>. From the Homepage, select the [Dairy Prices] link and then the [Minimum Class Price Letters] link. Once there, be sure to make a bookmark for future reference.

For more information, please contact us at the phone numbers or e-mail address above.

Sincerely,

David K. Ikari, Chief
Dairy Marketing Branch



**MINIMUM PRICES FOR CLASSES 2, 3, 4a & 4b MARKET MILK
F.O.B. PROCESSING PLANT**

Released: February 1, 2006

CLASS 2: For February and March 2006	LB. FAT	LB. SNF	EQUIVALENT PER CWT.
Northern California	\$1.4548	\$0.8703	\$12.66
Southern California	\$1.4571	\$0.8961	\$12.90

CLASS 3: For February and March 2006	LB. FAT	LB. SNF	EQUIVALENT PER CWT.
Northern California	\$1.4548	\$0.8646	\$12.61
Southern California	\$1.4571	\$0.8646	\$12.62

CLASS 4a: January 2006	LB. FAT	LB. SNF	EQUIVALENT PER CWT.
Statewide	\$1.4050	\$0.7839	\$11.74

CLASS 4b: January 2006	LB. FAT	LB. SNF	EQUIVALENT PER CWT.
Statewide	\$1.4050	\$0.8788	\$12.56

COMMODITY MARKET PRICES:	\$ PER LB.
Chicago Mercantile Exchange Grade AA Butter - Daily Simple Average (December 26th - January 25th)	\$1.3553
Chicago Mercantile Exchange Block Cheddar Cheese - Daily Simple Average (December 26th - January 25th)	\$1.3581
California Extra Grade & Grade A Nonfat Dry Milk - Monthly Weighted Average (December 26th - January 25th)	\$0.9359
Western Dry Whey (Mostly) - Monthly Simple Average (December 26th - January 25th)	\$0.3466

Component and hundredweight prices for Classes 2&3 include Milk Producer Security Trust Fund charges effective June 1, 2002.

The March 2006 Class 1 price will be announced no later than 4:00 p.m. on February 10, 2006.
 April and May 2006 Class 2 and 3 prices will be announced no later than 4:00 p.m. on April 3, 2006.
 February 2006 Class 4a and 4b prices will be announced no later than 4:00 p.m. on March 1, 2006.